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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/668,790	09/22/2003	Eric Walther	81455-5620	4096

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EXAMINER

WITHERSPOON, SIKARL A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1621

DATE MAILED: 04/13/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/668,790

Applicant(s)

WALTHER, ERIC

Examiner

Sikarl A. Witherspoon

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 September 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 9/22/03.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dijkstra et al (Chem. Commun. 2000).

The instant claim are drawn to a process for the oxidation of an *unsaturated* alcohol into a corresponding aldehyde or ketone, by oxidizing said alcohol with a hypochlorite salt, in the presence of a catalytic amount of a N-(2,2,6,6-tetraalkyl-4-piperidiny-N-oxyl)-2-amino-1,3,5-triazine compound. Further limitations include the hypochlorite salt being selected from sodium, potassium, or calcium hypochlorite; a bromide salt or a bicarbonate being added to the process, and the process being conducted with or without a solvent.

Dijkstra et al teach the oxidation of primary and secondary aliphatic alcohols with hypochlorite, using a polymer immobilized TEMPO (PIPO) catalyst. Table 1, on page 271 describes the PIPO-catalyzed oxidation of several alcohols with bromide and hypochlorite, specifically potassium bromide and sodium hypochlorite (bleach), to form the corresponding aldehyde or ketone. The hypochlorite is added at 1.25 molar equivalents relative to the alcohol. Potassium bicarbonate is added to the reaction

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mixture as a buffer, in order to maintain a specific pH of the reaction mixture; dichloromethane is used as solvent. Entry 3^c is conducted *without* a solvent.

The difference between Dijksman et al and the instant invention is that Dijksman et al do not expressly teach or describe an example wherein an unsaturated alcohol is oxidized to the corresponding aldehyde or ketone, as claimed herein.

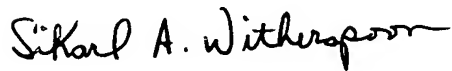
However, the abstract states that a *variety* of alcohols may be oxidized using the PIPO catalyst (with hypochlorite), and therefore does not limit the alcohol reactant to saturated or unsaturated alcohols. Therefore, the examiner takes the position that it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to substitute one of the saturated primary or secondary alcohols taught in the examples in Dijksman et al with a primary or secondary alcohol. One of ordinary skill would have been motivated to make such a substitution of a reactant by the desire to produce, and the reasonable expectation of producing, a corresponding unsaturated aldehyde or ketone.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sikarl A. Witherspoon whose telephone number is 571-272-0649. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-6:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Johann Richter can be reached on 571-272-0646. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Sikarl A. Witherspoon
Patent Examiner
Technology Center 1600